

1-1 By: Hull, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Parker) H.B. No. 3783
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2025;
1-3 May 7, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 26, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
1-6 May 26, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			

1-14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 3783 By: Johnson

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the
1-18 parent-child relationship.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Section 153.010, Family Code, is amended by
1-21 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read
1-22 as follows:

1-23 (a) Subject to Subsections (c) and (d), if ~~if~~ the court
1-24 finds at the time of a hearing that the parties have a history of
1-25 conflict in resolving an issue of conservatorship or possession of
1-26 or access to the child, the court may order a party to:

1-27 (1) participate in counseling with a mental health
1-28 professional who:

1-29 (A) has a background in family therapy;

1-30 (B) has a mental health license that requires as
1-31 a minimum a master's degree; and

1-32 (C) has training in the dynamics of family
1-33 ~~domestic~~ violence if the court determines that the training is
1-34 relevant to the type of counseling needed; and

1-35 (2) pay the cost of counseling.

1-36 (c) In determining whether to order a party to participate
1-37 in counseling under Subsection (a), the court shall consider
1-38 evidence of family violence or sexual abuse in accordance with
1-39 Section 153.004. If credible evidence of family violence or sexual
1-40 abuse is presented, the court may not order:

1-41 (1) counseling in which a victim of the violence or
1-42 abuse participates in counseling sessions together with the
1-43 perpetrator of the violence or abuse; or

1-44 (2) a party who is a victim of the violence or abuse to
1-45 pay any of the cost of the counseling.

1-46 (d) A court may not order a party to participate in
1-47 counseling under Subsection (a) in which the person conducting the
1-48 counseling requires:

1-49 (1) the isolation of a child who is the subject of the
1-50 suit from the child's family, school, religious community, other
1-51 community, or other sources of support, including by prohibiting or
1-52 preventing the child from contacting a parent or other family
1-53 member;

1-54 (2) a child who is the subject of the suit to stay
1-55 overnight or for multiple days in an out-of-state location or other
1-56 location, regardless of whether the child is accompanied by a
1-57 parent or other family member;

1-58 (3) the transportation of a child who is the subject of
1-59 the suit to a location by force, threat of force, undue coercion, or
1-60 other action that places the child's safety at risk;

2-1 (4) a temporary or permanent change in the periods of
2-2 possession of or access to a child who is the subject of the suit to
2-3 which a conservator of the child would otherwise be entitled; or

2-4 (5) the use of force, threat of force, undue coercion,
2-5 or verbal abuse against a child who is the subject of the suit.

2-6 SECTION 2. Section 153.010, Family Code, as amended by this
2-7 Act, applies to a suit affecting the parent-child relationship that
2-8 is pending in a trial court on the effective date of this Act or that
2-9 is filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

2-10 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Section
2-11 153.010, Family Code, constitutes a material and substantial change
2-12 of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of a court
2-13 order or portion of a decree that provides for the possession of or
2-14 access to a child rendered before the effective date of this Act.

2-15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-19 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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